

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT THE U.S. ELECTIONS

We strongly encourage you to register to vote and/or request absentee ballots as early as possible each election year to ensure that you will receive all ballots for which you are eligible. Should questions or problems occur, you would still be able to address them in time to vote in the general elections.

The following is the basic absentee voting process:

- You complete an application form (see below) and send it to local election officials in the U.S.
- The local official approves your request, or contacts you for further information
- The local official sends you an absentee ballot
- You vote the ballot and send it back in time to meet your state's deadline

The official US Government website for overseas absentee voting assistance is the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at www.fvap.gov. It has a wealth of information about absentee voting, including the downloadable absentee ballot application, state-specific instructions for completing the form, links to state and local officials, and a downloadable emergency ballot.

Overseas citizens groups help people to vote. We encourage you to contact Democrats Abroad, Republicans Abroad or other American citizens groups or organizations for assistance in registering to vote and requesting absentee ballots. Links to these groups are at <http://www.fvap.gov/links/ocitlinks.html>.

To register to vote and to request an absentee ballot, download the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/onlinefPCA.html>. You can also obtain this form from overseas American citizens groups or from the U.S. Embassy/Consulate. Fill it out and send it in, following the guidelines for your state. A postage-paid envelope template, valid if you are using the U.S. postal system, is available at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/returnenvelope.html>.

Each state has different voting procedures. Information about your state's procedures is available at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/vag/vagchapter3.html>. Information about your state's deadlines to register and vote is available at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/primarycal.html>. A calendar of election dates is available at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/primarycal.html>.

To check the status of your voter registration, contact your State or Local Election Office. The Federal Voting Assistance Program website has a listing of all the State Election Office's websites. Simply visit our website at www.fvap.gov and select the State Election Site. Once at this homepage, you'll find a great deal of election information including how to contact your local election office.

States sometimes make last-minute changes. There may be late changes to your state's voting calendar, procedures or deadlines. When these occur, the Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP) will issue a News Release. News Releases are available at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/releases.html>.

You can vote by absentee ballot from France, even if you were never registered to vote. For voting purposes you must register using the address in the state where you last resided immediately prior to your departure from the United States. If you never resided in the United States, you may register and vote in the last state that your parents, or grandparents, resided in before your birth. Seventeen states have specific rules that permit foreign-born American citizens who have never resided in the U.S. to use their parents' state of voting residence: Arizona, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Iowa, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, West Virginia and Wisconsin. For other states, please send your Federal Postcard Application to the appropriate local board of elections since the state determines your eligibility.

Be an educated voter. Non-partisan information about candidates, their voting records, and their positions on issues is widely available and easy to obtain via the Internet. Use the links appearing on the Federal Voting Assistance Program website at <http://www.fvap.gov/links/otherlinks.html>, or choose any one of several search engines to locate articles and information.

An emergency ballot is available. If the ballot receipt deadline is approaching, and you have not yet received the blank ballot from local officials, you can download an emergency ballot, write in the names of the candidates and the offices for which they are running, and send it back in time to meet your state's ballot receipt deadline. The emergency ballot (SF-186, Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot, or FWAB) is available on the Internet at <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/forms.html>.

Additionally, the Voting Assistance Officer at the U.S. Embassy/Consulates, American Presence Posts and Agencies in France is available to answer questions about absentee voting. To contact the Voting Assistance Officer, call numbers provided below, or send an e-mail to citizeninfo@state.gov. If you do not live in the region of Paris you may also contact the Embassy's offices listed on pages 3-4.

You may request the FPCA or obtain additional information by contacting the U.S. Embassy in Paris at 01 43 12 29 93 — 01 43 12 20 93 — 01 43 12 20 21, or by calling the operator at 01 43 12 22 22 and asking for the Office of American Services. To request the FPCA you may also use the Embassy's e-mail service citizeninfo@state.gov or make a written request by mail to: U.S. Embassy, American Citizen Services, 4, avenue Gabriel, 75382 Paris CEDEX 08. When sending your request for the FPCA, please indicate your name, current address in France and your last "state of legal residence" in the United States.

If your election materials require a witness or notary signature, please see information concerning notarial services provided at the U.S. Embassy and the American Presence Posts in France.

Look for notices from the Embassy/Consulate throughout the year relating to the elections at <http://france.usembassy.gov/consul/acs/voting.htm> and <http://france.usembassy.gov/consul/acs/new/default.htm>.

You may also refer to our most frequently asked questions at: <http://www.fvap.gov/pubs/vin/html06vins/jul06vin.html>

Again, we strongly encourage you to begin this process as soon as possible.

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AMERICAN CONSULATES and AMERICAN PRESENCE POSTS IN FRANCE & THEIR GEOGRAPHICAL JURISDICTION

PARIS AND STRASBOURG CONSULAR DISTRICTS:

Consular Section, American Embassy, Paris

Office of American Services

4, avenue Gabriel, 75382 Paris Cedex 08 (Métro: Concorde)

Tel: 01.43.12.22.22

Website : <http://france.usembassy.gov>

Fax: 01 42 96 28 39 (passport section)

E-mail : citizeninfo@state.gov

Fax: 01.42.61.61.40 (special consular services)

(Ain 01, Aisne 02, Allier 03, Ardèche 07, Ardennes 08, Aube 10, Calvados 14, Cantal 15, Charente 16, Charente-Maritime 17, Cher 18, Corrèze 19, Côte d'Or 21, Côtes d'Armor 22, Creuse 23, Deux-Sèvres 79, Dordogne 24, Drôme 26, Essonne 91, Eure 27, Eure-et-Loir 28, Finistère 29, Gard 30, Gironde 33, Haute-Loire 43, Haute-Marne 52, Haute-Savoie 74, Haute-Vienne 87, Hauts-de-Seine 92, Ile-et-Vilaine 35, Indre 36, Indre-et-Loire 37, Isère 38, Landes 40, Loir-et-Cher 41, Loire 42, Loire-Atlantique 44, Loiret 45, Lot-et-Garonne 47, Maine-et-Loire 49, Manche 50, Marne 51, Mayenne 53, Morbihan 56, Nièvre 58, Nord 59, Oise 60, Orne 61, Pas-de-Calais 62, Paris 75, Puy-de-Dôme 63, Pyrénées-Atlantiques 64, Rhône 69, Saône-et-Loire 71, Sarthe 72, Savoie 73, Seine-Maritime 76, Seine-et-Marne 77, Seine-Saint-Denis 93, Somme 80, Tarn-et-Garonne 82, Val de Marne 94, Val-d'Oise 95, Vendée 85, Vienne 86, Yonne 89, Yvelines 78)

Bordeaux (American Presence Post)

10, place de la Bourse, B.P. 77,

33076 Bordeaux

Tel: 05.56.48.63.80

Fax: 05.56.51.61.97

E-mail: usabordeaux@state.gov

Website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/bordeaux/default.htm>

Lille (American Presence Post)

107, rue Royale, 59000 Lille

Tel: 03.28.04.25.00

Fax: 03.20.74.88.23

E-mail: usalille@state.gov

Website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/lille/default.htm>

Lyon (American Presence Post)

1, quai Jules Courmont, 69002 Lyon

Tel: 04.78.38.33.03

Fax: 04.72.41.71.81

E-mail: usalyon@state.gov

Website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/lyon/default.htm>

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Rennes (American Presence Post)

30, quai Duguay-Trouin, 35000 Rennes

Tel: 02.23 44.09 60

Fax: 02.99.35.00.92

E-mail: usarennes@state.gov

Website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/rennes/default.htm>

Strasbourg (Consulate General)

15, avenue d'Alsace, 67082 Strasbourg

Tel: 03.88.35.31.04

Fax: 03.88.24.06.95

Website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/strasbourg/default.htm>

(Bas-Rhin 67, Doubs 25, Haut-Rhin 68, Haute-Saône 70, Jura 39, Meurthe-et-Moselle 54, Meuse 55, Moselle 57, Territoire de Belfort 90, Vosges 88)

MARSEILLE CONSULAR DISTRICT:**Marseille (Consulate General)**

Place Varian Fry, 13086 Marseille Cedex 06

Tel: 04.91.54.92.00

Fax: 04.91.55.56.95

Website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/marseille/default.htm>

(Alpes de Hautes Provence 04, Alpes-Maritimes 06, Ariège 09, Aude 11, Aveyron 12, Bouches-du-Rhône 13, Corse-du-Sud 2A, Gard 30, Gers 32, Hautes-Alpes 05, Haute-Corse 2B, Haute-Garonne 31, Hautes-Pyrénées 65, Hérault 34, Lot 46, Lozère 48, Principauté de Monaco, Pyrénées-Orientales 66, Tarn 81, Tarn et Garonne 82, Var 83, Vaucluse 84)

Nice (Consular agency)

7 avenue Gustave V, 3rd floor, 06000 Nice

Tel: 04.93 88.89.55

Fax: 04.93.87.07.38

Website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/marseille/nice.htm>

Toulouse (American Presence Post)

25, Allée Jean-Jaurès, 31000 Toulouse

Tel: 05.34.41.36.50

Fax: 05.34.41.16.19

E-mail: usconsulate-tlse@wanadoo.fr

Website: <http://france.usembassy.gov/toulouse/default.htm>